Thy face. Surely, this man was born of woman.—
Forgive my general and exceptless rashness,
You perpetual-sober[8] gods! *I* do proclaim
One honest man,—mistake me not,—but one;
No more, I pray,—and he is a steward.—
How fain would I have hated all mankind,
And thou redeem'st thyself: But all, save thee,
I fell with curses.
Methinks, thou art more honest now, than wise;
For, by oppressing and betraying me,
Thou might'st have sooner got another service :
For many so arrive at second masters,
Upon their first lord's neck. But tell me true,
(For I must ever doubt, though ne'er so sure,)
Is not thy kindness subtle, covetous,
If not a usuring [9] kindness ; and as rich men deal
gifts, Expecting in
return twenty for one ?

FLAV. No, my most worthy master, in whose
breast
Doubt and suspect, alas, are plac'd too late: You should have fear'd false times, when you did
feast:
Suspect still comes where an estate is least. That which I show, heaven knows, is merely love,

[8] Perpetual-sober—] Old copy, unmetrically—[tE] *You* perpetual,"&c. STEEVENS.

9 IF NOT a usuring —] *If not* seems to have slipt in here, by an error of the press, from the preceding line. Both the sense and metre would be better without it. TYRWHITT.

I do not see any need of change. Timon asks—[eE] Has not thy kindness some covert design ? Is it not proposed with a view to gain some *equivalent* in return, or rather to gain *a great deal more* than thou offerest ? Is it not at least the offspring of avarice, *if not* of something worse, of usury ? In this there appears to me no difficulty. MALONE.

My opinion most perfectly coincides with that of Mr. Tyrwhitt The sense of the line, with or without the contested words, is nearly the same; yet, by the omission of them, the metre would become sufficiently regular, STEEVENS.